(b) whether this report also points out that the country is likely to achieve gender parity in elementary education by 2007; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) Yes Sir. The UNESCO in its Education for All Global Monitoring Report, 2007 has taken note of over all improvement in the education situation in India by giving an increased Education for All Development Index (EDI) of 0.789, which reflects 6.5% increase in value between 2003 and 2004.

(b) and (c) UNESCO in the said report has noted that in India, gender parity was achieved in pre-primary education in 2004, with Gender Parity Index (GPI) of 1.00 in 2004, up from 0.89 in 1991.

Ragging of fresh students

37. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether ragging of fresh students in the campuses and hostels of institutes of higher education is going on unabated with serious consequences, even fatal;

(b) if so, the details of such instances reported during the last three years and the action taken thereon;

(c) whether a Committee was set up to look into such matters and suggest ways and means of stopping such menace;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Committee has submitted its report; and

(f) if so, the details and its recommendations proposed, given effect to and if not by when the report is expected and implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (f) While no centralized data is maintained about incidents of ragging in the institutions of higher education, certain instances of ragging have been

reported from time to time. The Supreme Court directed the constitution of a Committee under the chairmanship of Shri R.K. Raghavan, former Director, Central Bureau of Investigation, which has been notified by the Government on 5.12.2006. The Committee would look into the various aspects of ragging, including means and methods of prevention of ragging, possible action that can be taken against persons indulging in ragging and also against College/University authorities in such cases, and is required to submit its report by 5.4.2007.

Admission in KVs under privilege quota

38. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the admissions in Kendriya Vidyalayas against the privilege quota are not given as per stipulated conditions but the persons having influence and approach only get admission;

(b) if not, the reaction of Government to the matters as published in the print media recently;

(c) whether Government intend to take action against the Chairman and Members of the Committee constituted for identification of these students who fulfil the stipulated conditions for the said quota; and

(d) if not, whom Government presume responsible for the said corruption?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The admission cases under discretionary quota were considered by the Committee constituted by the Competent Authority, as per its terms of reference.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) None, in view of reply given in part (b).